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## **Bureau of Navigation BALCLUTHA records, 1901-1906, 1986 January 23, (bulk 1901-1906)**

**HDC 1296  
SAFR 21355  
SAFR-1449**

### **Creators**

Alaska Packers Association  
Bureau of Navigation

### **Extent**

2 folders and 1 roll of microfilm (approximately ¼ LF) (400 items)

### **Repository**

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park  
Historic Documents Collection  
Fort Mason, Building E  
San Francisco, California, 94123

### **Scope and Content**

Collection is open for use.

Collection consists of duplicates from the National Archives, Old Military and Civil Records.

The Bureau of Navigation BALCLUTHA records cover the years 1901-1906, documenting the beginning of the Alaska Packers Association's relationship with the ship. The collection consists of two folders and one roll of microfilm. Both folders contain Bureau of Navigation correspondence regarding the BALCLUTHA. Folder 1 contains photocopies of Certificates of Enrollment (Bureau of Navigation Correspondence, File #40324-N). Folder two includes photocopies of correspondence regarding changing the name of the ship from BALCLUTHA to STAR OF ALASKA; a photocopy of a Deed of Trust between the Alaska Packers Association and Mercantile Trust Company of San Francisco; and photocopies of Certificates of Inspection (Bureau of Navigation Correspondence, File #193061-N).

The reel of microfilm contains Shipping Articles for BALCLUTHA. These are for inbound trips in 1902, 1904 and 1906 and an outbound trip from 1905.

Original records are at the National Archives. The microfilm is in good shape but it could be copied or scanned to make it more easily accessible to users. Also, these

microfilmed records should also be available through the National Archives Pacific Region branch in San Bruno.

### **History**

In 1901, a special act of Congress admitted BALCLUTHA to the American registry so it could engage in trade between American ports. Subsequently, the Alaska Packers Association, a San Francisco-based firm that harvested and canned salmon, chartered the BALCLUTHA to carry supplies and men north to Alaska. After the ship ran aground in 1904, the Packers Association purchased the ship for \$500. The firm did extensive repairs and renamed the vessel STAR OF ALASKA. It regularly carried supplies and cannery workers to Alaska in the spring and returned to San Francisco with cases of canned salmon in September. In 1930, STAR OF ALASKA was the only sailing ship the Packers Association sent to the salmon fishing fields (they once had a fleet of 35). The firm retired the vessel when it returned in September. In 1933, entrepreneurs Frank and Rose Kissinger purchased the STAR from the Packers Association in 1933 for \$5,000 and renamed it the PACIFIC QUEEN.

### **Arrangement**

Original order maintained.

#### **Folder List 1**

Certificates of Enrollment, 1901-1906

Correspondence Re: Name Change, Deed of Trust, Certificates of Inspection, 1905-1906, 1986 January 23

### **Provenance**

Purchased from the National Archives, Old Military and Civil Records, Textual Archives Services Division, Washington, D.C., December 7, 1999.

### **Preferred citation**

*Bureau of Navigation BALCLUTHA records.* San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

### **Associated Materials:**

*Alaska Packers Association Logbooks, 1876-1945.* SAFR 14033, HDC 00115

*BALCLUTHA (1886, ship, 3m).* SAFR 19584, HDC 01167

*Model, STAR OF ALASKA, Circa 1886-1935.* SAFR 5461

*Kissinger, Rose (Donor) – Collection, 1908-1950.* SAFR 9556, HDC 0528

*U.S. Office of the Shipping Commissioner, Mutual Releases, 1912.* SAFR 13191, HDC 01069

*Art Walter photographs, [circa 1880]-1919.* SAFR 15217, P79-078

*“Star of Alaska” document collection, 1909.* SAFR 17196, HDC 0301

*Charles Paulson photographs [has photo of STAR OF ALASKA crew in 1905]. SAFR 20960, P06-021*

**Reference Terms**

Alaska Packers Association--Archives

Canned salmon

Salmon canning industry--Alaska--History

Salmon canning industry--Pacific Coast (U.S.)--History

**Cataloguer:**

Marjorie Bryer, August 2007